**The Best Years of Our Lives (1946)**

Directed by Samuel Goldwyn

Due end of class

Use this sheet as a cover sheet; write your answers on separate sheets of paper.

20 points total

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Name and describe at least three problems that soldiers faced, women and/or children. Back up the problem with an example from the movie.
2. Which characters did you connect with the most? Why?
   1. How did he/she cope with the changes?
   2. If you were in this characters position what would you do differently?
3. Which scene made the most significant impression on you? Describe the scene and most importantly explain why it made an impact on you.

**Read the follow interpretations of this movie and then write a short essay on why you agree or disagree and make sure you include details.**

*“The ironic title refers to the troubling fact that many servicemen had 'the best years of their lives' in wartime, not in their experiences afterwards in peacetime America when they were forced to adapt to the much-changed demands and became the victims of dislocating forces. However, it could be argued that the servicemen also gave up and sacrificed 'the best years of their lives' - their youthful innocence and health - by serving in the military and becoming disjointed from normal civilian life.” By Tim Dirks (http://www.filmsite.org)*